David Kolaz, Chief Bureau of Air Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 1021 North Grand Avenue East Post Office Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Dear Mr. Kolaz:

This letter is a follow-up to the June 26, 2003, letter in which we found adequate the transportation conformity budgets in Illinois' amendment to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submitted on April 11, 2003, for the Chicago 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration. The submittal provided new MOBILE6 motor vehicle emissions budgets for the 2005 and 2007 years for both volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx).

Illinois submitted a responsiveness summary for the public comments received on the proposed revision to the SIP which included revised budgets. Illinois reduced the expected benefit from transportation control measures for the 2005 and 2007 years and provided updated MOBILE6 motor vehicle emission budgets. We have determined that the motor vehicle emissions budgets as revised are adequate, pursuant to section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93, Subpart A).

The revised and submitted 2007 motor vehicle emissions budgets for VOC of 127.42 tons per day and of 280.40 tons per day for NOx and also, the 2005 VOC budget of 151.11 tons per day are found adequate. These are the budgets which should be used for future conformity determinations in the Chicago area. These budgets have met the standard requirements that any budget must meet before it can be used to determine conformity for a transportation improvement program or long range plan. adequacy finding does not relate to the merits of the SIP submittal nor does it indicate whether the submittal meets the USEPA's requirements for approval.

The USEPA opened a comment period on the SIP budgets for adequacy by posting it to our web site on April 16, 2003. The web address is www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/conform/adequacy.htm. The comment period closed on May 16, 2003, and no comments were received. In addition, the USEPA reviewed all the comments made to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) during the State comment period.

More information on SIPs and adequacy reviews is also available on the USEPA web site. It is expected that the USEPA will soon publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing this adequacy finding. If you have questions, please feel free to call me or Patricia Morris, of my staff, at (312) 353-8656.

Sincerely yours,

Cheryl L. Newton, Acting Director Air and Radiation Division

cc: Mike Rogers
Bureau of Air
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Aristide Biciunas, Secretary Chicago Area Transportation Study bcc's: official file copy w/o attachment(s)
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